

Ricky, here is some detailed information for your use; hope it helps and please let us know if you need more. Thanks.

Louisiana never had a plan for recovery; we did. The basic components of the comprehensive recovery plan Mississippi presented to Congress and the Administration on November 1, 2005 – covering housing, jobs and services – remain in place today. Mississippi has asked for a total of about \$33 billion in federal funding, and so far has been allocated about \$23.5 billion for specific purposes:

- Housing, specifically using Community Development Block Grant funds for an unprecedented program to compensate homeowners who lived outside the federally-mandated flood zone, had homeowners insurance, and had damage from storm surge; elevation grants to help residents rebuild out of harm's way; repair and rebuild units of rental housing and public housing; ratepayer mitigation funds so utility ratepayers would not have to bear the brunt of the millions of dollars utilities spent to repair (and, as you remember, in only 12 days Mississippi Power had restored service to anyone who could receive it); and, pumping up the insurance windpool to minimize the inevitable increase in premiums.
- Jobs, specifically an economic development component to help local communities restore major business centers so people could get back to work; tourism restoration grants to help attract visitors as quickly as possible and get this vital segment of the Coast economy up again.
- Services, specifically water/wastewater infrastructure to accommodate anticipated growth; community revitalization grants; local government planning grants; grants to help local governments hire more building inspectors; grants to fund fraud investigation.

In addition, Mississippi proposed innovative uses of social services block grants, developed the Hurricane Katrina Education Recovery Act, higher education recovery funds, grants for law enforcement, mental health crisis counseling.

Bottom line: Under Governor Barbour's leadership and with the tremendous support of our Congressional delegation, Mississippi has sought federal funding for very specific purposes under a comprehensive recovery plan.